

June 23, 2022

THE NEXUS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE IDAHO LIBRARY COMMUNITY

Interactive CE Sessions Available

ICfL Continuing Education Consultant Annie Gains offers a menu of interactive continuing education (CE) sessions on a wide variety of topics (with more being added in the future).

Sessions range in duration from 20 to 90 minutes and are designed to encourage discussion.

To participate, you do need to submit a request.

For more, visit: <https://libraries.idaho.gov/introducing-the-2022-menu-of-interactive-continuing-education-sessions/>.



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<https://libraries.idaho.gov>

ICfL Idaho
Commission
for Libraries

Trailblazing Telehealth

Four more public libraries in Idaho are trailblazing telehealth by creating spaces or offering services in their community to meet the need for telehealth. Caldwell Public, Challis Public, Hailey Public, and the Patricia Romanko Public Library in Parma recently received a Telehealth Trailblazers Grant. The funding of \$40,000 was provided by the Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health and managed by the Idaho Commission for Libraries.

In 2021, Blue Cross granted \$30,000 to support the two public libraries in Clearwater County (Weippe and Orofino) in the initial pilot phase of this project.

The purpose of the Telehealth Trailblazers Grant is to identify, test, and adapt a variety of methods, practices, and tools for public libraries to use in establishing telehealth services.

There are many barriers that can prevent Idahoans from accessing health care services, including physical/geographic distance from the provider, which travel costs, weather, and road conditions can exacerbate. In some communities, people struggle to arrange for childcare, time off work, or transportation to a medical appointment.

Library project(s):

Caldwell Public Library -- Purchase a tablet and Chromebook to be used in telehealth outreach, particularly for Spanish-speaking community members who face difficulties in accessing telehealth appointments.

Challis Public Library -- Purchase and install a privacy pod, with the required tech, that will be used as a telehealth space within the library.

Hailey Public Library -- Turn an existing meeting room into a private, soundproof telehealth space, with the necessary equipment and reliable internet access.

Patricia Romanko Public Library (Parma) -- Turn an old bank vault into an isolated, confidential telehealth space, with the necessary tech for the vault to serve as a state-of-the-art space specifically designed for private medical appointments and consultations.



Other Grants

Bucks for Books

The **Bucks for Books** grant will open in **August** for the 2022-2023 application. For the first time, this grant will be open to both elementary and secondary schools! (But if your school has already received a Bucks for Books award, you are not eligible to apply.)



In partnership with the Idaho Lottery, the ICfL brings awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$3,000 for school libraries to purchase books. Most elementary school libraries in Idaho have insufficient funds to provide high-quality, age-appropriate books for their students to read at school or take home. For more (including to see if your school has already received a Bucks for Books award), visit <https://libraries.idaho.gov/school-libraries/bucks-for-books/>.

K-Readiness

The **Kindergarten Readiness** grant is open until **August 31, 2022**. This grant is to assist public library staff in better preparing preschool children to be successful in school. The grant funding allows for a partnership between the public library, the local school district(s), and other community partners to reach children and their families before the child enters school. For more, visit <https://libraries.idaho.gov/rtm/kinder-grant/>.



Grant Help?

If you think completing a grant application is too time-consuming or beyond your grasp, contact ICfL Grants/Contracts Officer Talela Florko at Talela.Florko@libraries.idaho.gov.

Talela will be happy to help take the fear out of the grant process for you.

Digital Inclusion

Terms such as the digital divide and the homework gap are often used to describe the disparity separating those with access to the internet and devices from those without; however, these terms do not always capture the complexities of our digital age.

For more about digital inclusion, including the five elements of digital inclusion, visit <https://libraries.idaho.gov/digital-inclusion/>. The webpage also includes links to broadband resources, the Idaho public library Wi-Fi map, digital literacy training, technology guides, and technical support. For a fact sheet about digital inclusion, visit <https://libraries.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/Digital-inclusion-Flyer-2022.pdf> or access from the main digital inclusion webpage.



Tech-Talk

Tech-Talk is a weekly, technology-focused e-newsletter for non-techies that is delivered to your email in-box. It offers tips on tech, communication, leadership ideas, research topics, and more. To subscribe or find out more, visit <https://libraries.idaho.gov/publications/tech-talk-newsletter/>.

ICfL Newsletters

Check out the ICfL's many publications and newsletters
-- all accessible from one webpage.

<https://libraries.idaho.gov/publications/>



Are you interested in talking to and connecting with other Idaho library staff and trustees on specific topics? If so, check out a LITT (Libraries in Idaho Talking Trends) for regular virtual conversations with members of the Idaho library community. The topics are varied. To find out more, visit: <https://libraries.idaho.gov/litt/>.

Zines & Libraries Virtual Conference July 7 - 8 (it's FREE)

The Zines & Libraries Conference is a free, two-day virtual gathering of librarians, zine artists, and educators who will learn about all things zine. The virtual conference will be held from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. MT on Thursday, July 7 and Friday, July 8.

There will be nine separate sessions, each 50 minutes long. Presenters will go over zine history, cataloging, starting a collection, plus they will provide tools, resources, and tips on how to successfully integrate zines into libraries and instruction. For more, visit <https://www.zinelibraries.info/events/zines-librarians-conference-2022/>.



Let's Talk About It

In partnership with the Idaho Humanities Council, the ICfL brings the Let's Talk About It (LTAI) adult reading discussion program to public libraries. The first virtual LTAI author discussion series began in April.

There is a session on **Thursday, June 23 from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. MT** with Reyna Grande, author of "The Distance Between Us."

To view the recordings from these author discussions, visit <https://libraries.idaho.gov/ltai/virtual-encore-2022/>. (These recordings are available to anyone.)



Trustee Training?

For directors of public libraries who would like to arrange a full trustee training or even just a refresher for their board, please contact ICfL Public Library Consultant Clay Ritter. Clay can be reached by phone at 208-639-4177 or via email at clay.ritter@libraries.idaho.gov.

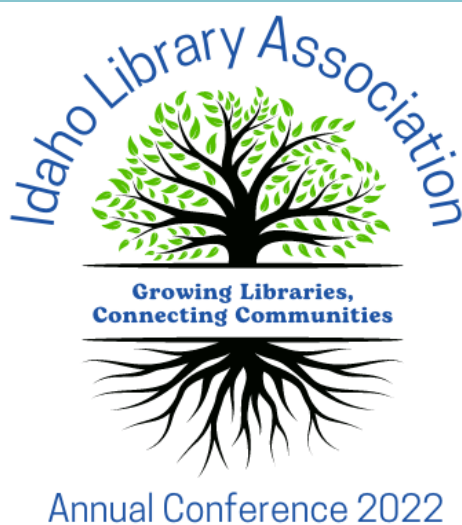
Also, there is a wealth of material for trustees and directors on the ICfL website at: <https://libraries.idaho.gov/trustees-directors/>.

ICfL Team

The ICfL's Idaho Talking Book Service team biked for a good cause on May 2 in the Cycle for Independence event.



From left, back row:
Pete Nelson, Josie Bradford,
Stephanie Bailey-White,
Deana Brown,
Sue Walker (retired),
and Tina Schilling (front)



ILA Annual Conf. Oct. 6-7

The Idaho Library Association's (ILA) Annual Conference will be held October 6 and 7 in Lewiston. (possible pre-conference on Oct. 5)

For more, visit
<http://www.idaholibraries.org/>

ICfL's New E-Resources Library Consultant

Marina Rose recently joined the ICfL in the newly created role of e-resources library consultant. She will oversee the LiLI databases, the ShareIdaho resource program, and the IDEA e-book collection. Marina joined the ICfL from the Caldwell Public Library, where she was the adult services librarian for six years. Marina's email address is marina.rose@libraries.idaho.gov.



MOSS Meetup

In May, the ICfL hosted the third annual virtual MOSS Meetup, which is designed to give the academic library community the opportunity to learn from their peers at other institutions. This year, 39 people attended the event (that does not account for those who watched the recordings). Planning and hosting of the event was led by ICfL Continuing Education Consultant Annie Gaines and Emerging Trends Consultant Deana Brown. In addition to a presentation by the keynote speaker Emily Drabinski, ALA president-elect, participants enjoyed updates from 12 Idaho academic libraries, along with five "lightening" talks from Idaho library workers at three institutions. Feedback about this year's event was positive, with one respondent reporting: "This year's MOSS Meetup was a true pleasure to attend. I very much look forward to next year's!"

Note: In case you are wondering where the MOSS in this meetup comes from, the 2020 event was to be held in person at the McCall Outdoor Science School (MOSS), but a worldwide pandemic broke out.

Idaho College Savings Program "Play Ball" Drawing



IDeal Idaho College Savings Program is sponsoring the Boise Hawks to offer the 529 "play-ball" drawing. Parents may enter the drawing for the chance to have their child announce "play-ball" at a Hawks home game this season! All entries will be entered into a grand prize drawing to win \$529 into an IDeal – Idaho 529 College Savings account. Enter [here](#) by **September 2**.

Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a discount on monthly internet bills for qualifying low-income households.

- Up to \$30 per month for broadband services purchased by eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households located on Tribal lands.
- One-time discount of up to \$100 on purchasing a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if you contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price.



Your library staff can help **spread the word** about the Affordable Connectivity Program. There is a consumer outreach toolkit with materials to help raise awareness of the ACP. You can download the materials, which are provided in English, Spanish, and some other languages, as well. (Also, later this summer, the ICfL will be providing some of these materials to public libraries.)

For more, including how to apply, visit <https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov/how-to-apply/> or check out the ICfL's webpage <https://libraries.idaho.gov/digital-inclusion/affordable-connectivity-program/> for much more.

IBOB Adds High School Division

The Idaho Battle of the Books (IBOB) has added the high school division for next school year.

For resources, including bookmarks and posters, visit <https://idahobattleofthebooks.org/resources-downloads-2/>.



Teen Reading Challenge

The Idaho Teen Reading Challenge will kick off in September. Keep an eye on the "Scoop" for more. If you don't subscribe to the "Scoop," you may do so here <https://libraries.idaho.gov/publications/>.



"That All May Read" Grant Supporting TBS



Twenty-eight public libraries in Idaho applied for and received the ICfL's \$1,000 "That All May Read" mini-grant in support of the Idaho Talking Book Service (TBS). The funding may be used for large-print books, audiobooks, assistive technology or equipment (i.e., tablet or headphones), marketing materials, grant-related library displays, and more.

TBS Program Supervisor LeAnn Gelskey said, "We are excited that so many libraries applied for this grant and that staff are eager for new opportunities to promote TBS in their libraries and communities." Gelskey added, "Plus, this funding will help library staff better serve their patrons who enjoy large-print books or need technology that the library doesn't have."

All of the grant recipients made solid plans for spending the funding, including the directors of Glenns Ferry Public and Hansen Public:

"I would like to be able to meet the needs and demands of our high population of retirees, many of whom prefer large-print options. . . . These folks, who have been avid readers their whole lives, are now limited to reading our small selection of large-print titles."

Jennifer Trail, Director, Glenns Ferry Public Library

Some ideas from Hansen Public Library Director Cindy Bjorneberg include visiting senior centers, promoting TBS to the "over 60" exercise club in Hansen, and participating in community celebrations including "Hansen Day."

Summer Reading Celebration

The ICfL partnered with the Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs and Boise Public Library at a recent summer reading celebration. Books in English and Spanish were given away to kids.

From left:

Juan J. Saldaña, community resource development specialist, Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs, Ismael Mendoza Medina, bilingual/bicultural project coord., ICfL, and Joshua Shapel, events coordinator, Boise Public Library



**July is National Ice Cream Month, and
Sunday, July 17 is National Ice Cream Day.**

(Like we need an excuse.)